

Summary of the December 2001 Meeting

Science Advisory Panel for Commercial Passenger Vessel Wastewater Discharge

The Panel met December 11-12, 2001 at the NOAA Regional Facility in Seattle, WA. An agenda, list of discussion topics, and list of participants and attendees is included as a part of this meeting summary. The main outcome of the meeting was the decision to write a white paper that builds on the previous reports, discussions, and studies produced by the Panel.

Action items from the December 11-12 2001 meeting:

1. Revise assessment framework flowchart to account for other pathways. (Alan Mearns)
2. Update WET guidelines as per discussions on Dec 11. (Dave Eley) See outline document.
3. Begin work on white paper to address the “big picture” of cruise ship wastewater discharge. The draft white paper outline is posted on the Panel’s website. The white paper will drive all future activities of the Panel.

Members attending December 2001 meeting in Seattle

Marlin Atkinson, University of Hawaii
C-J Beegle-Krause, NOAA (attended first day)
Kenwyn George, ADEC
Ken Hall, University of British Columbia
Lincoln Loehr, Heller Ehrman
Charlie McGee, Orange County (CA) Sanitation District
Alan Mearns, NOAA
Madonna Narvaez, EPA (first day, WET presentation)
Mike Stekoll, University of Alaska
Mike Watson, EPA
Dave Eley, contract facilitator

Observers

David Rogers, ADEC
Gretchen Keiser, ADEC
Ernesta Ballard, Ballard Associates

SCIENCE ADVISORY PANEL FOR COMMERCIAL PASSENGER VESSEL WASTEWATER DISCHARGE

TOPICS AND ISSUES ADDRESSED

TUESDAY DECEMBER 11, 2001

- 0900-1100 Joint meeting with cruise industry, ADEC. (Facilitated by Dave Eley)
Summary of Panel's activities to date and anticipated work products
Questions and answers
- 1100-1115 Break
- 1115-1200 Types and sources of chemicals used on cruise ships. (Presentation by Alan Mearns and Mike Watson.)
- 1200-1215 Overview of 2000-2001 sampling data. (Presented by Kenwyn George)
- 1215-1300 Lunch
- 1300-1400 Nutrient loading:
Background nutrient levels (Mike Stekoll)
Nutrients in cruise ship wastewater (Kenwyn George)
Discussion: Is nutrient loading an issue?
- 1400-1500 Review of plans for ADEC funded WET test in May/June 2002.
(Presented Kenwyn George)
Review of WET test protocol, guidelines, procedures for interpreting results, placing results in context. (Facilitated by Madonna Narvaez)
- 1500-1515 Break
Dispersion:
Report on Florida dye study. (Kenwyn George)
Review of Navy technical report. (Lincoln Loehr)
- 1630 Adjourn for day

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

0830-0930 Bacteria:

Overview 2000/2001 bacteria data (Lincoln Loehr and Charlie McGee)
Fate of bacteria (Charlie McGee)

0930-1000 Discussion of claims that a "freshwater lens" of wastewater discharge
remains on the sea surface in the wake of a cruise ship (Lincoln Loehr)

1030-1045 Break

1045-1200 Future work:

Overview of small cruise ship operating practice in Southeast Alaska.
(Dave Eley)

Outline of work needed to address small cruise ship impacts. (Discussion
lead by Kenwyn George)

1200-1300 Lunch

1300-1500 Future work

Bottom sediments. (Discussion lead by Alan Mearns.)

Guidelines for designating no-discharge areas. (Discussion lead by Dave
Eley.)

Review of Assessment Framework Flowchart. (Discussion lead by Alan
Mearns.)

White paper topics (Proposed by Kenwyn George)

1500 End of meeting